

Hon. Richard A. Jones

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

MEGAN MING FRANCIS, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF  
JUSTICE,

Defendant.

No. 2:19-cv-1317-RAJ

**NINTH JOINT STATUS  
REPORT**

Pursuant to the Court's June 1, 2021 Scheduling Order, plaintiffs Megan Ming Francis, Matthew J. Connelly, Mary L. Dudziak, Matthew L. Jones, Hiroshi Motomura, Campaign for Accountability, and the Knight First Amendment Institute at Columbia University (collectively, "Plaintiffs") and defendant United States Department of Justice ("Defendant") respectfully submit this Joint Status Report regarding Plaintiffs' Freedom of Information Act request for all Office of Legal Counsel ("OLC") formal written opinions<sup>1</sup> issued prior to February 15, 1994.

As described in the Fifth Joint Status Report, ECF No. 24, the parties agreed to a plan to complete processing of Plaintiffs' FOIA request and resolve this matter. As reported in the Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Joint Status Reports, ECF Nos. 25–27, the only remaining issue was Plaintiffs' request for attorneys' fees. The parties have reached an agreement in principal on this issue, and require additional time to finalize the agreement. The parties propose that they submit their settlement agreement and stipulation of dismissal by August 13, 2021.

DATED: June 28, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Alex Abdo

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Plaintiffs' FOIA request.

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